

AMENDMENT

(Amendment based on Article 11)

To : Examiner of the Patent Office

1. Identification of the International Application

PCT/JP03/13960

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4. Item to be Amended Specification and Claims

5. Subject Matter of Amendment

- (1) The expression "a method for manufacturing a masking member comprising; the preparation of a green masking member by stretch molding a thermoplastic resin sheet, and then heating and softening said green masking member to achieve the size and shape suitable for the part to be masked." on page 1, lines 25 to 29 should be amended as "a method for manufacturing a masking member comprising; the preparation of a green masking member by stretch molding a thermoplastic resin sheet, the size of said green masking member being determined considering the margin of contraction, and then heating and softening said green masking member to achieve the size and shape suitable for the part to be masked."
- (2) The expression "a method for manufacturing a masking member comprising; the preparation of a green masking member by stretch molding a thermoplastic resin sheet, and then heating and softening said green masking member to achieve the size and shape suitable for the part to be masked." on page 16 in claim 1 should

be amended as “a method for manufacturing a masking member comprising; the preparation of a green masking member by stretch molding a thermoplastic resin sheet, and then heating and softening said green masking member to achieve the size and shape suitable for the part to be masked.”

7. List of Attached Documents

- (1) Replacement sheet of page 1 of the specification
- (2) Replacement sheet of pages 16 and 17 of the claims.

CLAIMS (amended)

- 1.(amended) A method for manufacturing a masking member comprising:
the preparation of a green masking member by stretch molding a thermoplastic resin sheet, the size of said green masking member being determined considering the margin of contraction, and then heating and softening said green masking member to achieve the size and shape suitable for the part to be masked
2. A method for the manufacturing of a masking member in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said heating and softening treatment is carried out at a temperature below that of the melting point of said thermoplastic resin sheet.
3. A method for the manufacturing of a masking member in accordance with Claim 1 or 2, wherein said thermoplastic resin sheet is made of a thermoplastic resin into which a filler is mixed.
4. A method for the manufacturing of a masking member in accordance with Claim 1 or 2, wherein said thermoplastic resin sheet is a foamed thermoplastic resin sheet.
5. A method for the manufacturing of a masking member in accordance with any of Claims 1 to 4, wherein said thermoplastic resin sheet is made of a polyolefin group resin.
6. A method for the manufacturing of a masking member in accordance with any of Claims 1 to 4, wherein said thermoplastic resin sheet is made of a polystyrene group resin.
7. A method for the manufacturing of a masking member in accordance with any of Claims 1 to 4, wherein said thermoplastic resin sheet is made of a polymer alloy containing an amorphous thermoplastic resin and a crystalline thermoplastic resin.
8. A method for manufacturing a masking member in accordance with Claim 7, wherein said amorphous thermoplastic resin(s) is (are) of one or more kind(s) of resin(s) selected from a group consisting of polystyrene, acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene resin, polycarbonate, modified polyphenylene ether, polyphenylene ether, polysulfone, polyarylate, polyimide, polyetherimide, polyethersulfone, and polyamideimide, with said crystalline thermoplastic resin(s) being a polyolefin group resin and/or polyamide group resin.

9. A method for the manufacturing of a masking member in accordance with Claims 1 to 8, wherein said stretch molding is achieved by vacuum and/or pressure forming.